

State of Connecticut House of Representatives

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Testimony of State Representative Patricia Billie Miller, 145th District Transportation Committee Public Hearing February 20, 2013

Proposed H.B. No. 5752, AN ACT CONCERNING THE RENTING OR LEASING OF PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLES.

Representative Guerrera, Senator Maynard and distinguished members of the Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to voice my support of H.B. No. 5752, An Act Concerning the Renting or Leasing of Passenger Motor Vehicles.

As the law currently stands, Connecticut residents are prohibited from being named as additional or secondary drivers on a car rental agreement if they lack a credit card. It also comes as a shock that despite many constituents having perfect driving records or a debit cards, they are still not allowed to rent a vehicle.

As Connecticut residents struggle to get back on their feet in this tough economy, many do not have access to credit cards. Consequently, they are placed at a severe disadvantage as primary and secondary drivers.

It would be nice to live in a world where all Connecticut residents have their own cars, however many do not. Therefore, they are forced to turn to rental cars as a necessary means of transportation. As we all know, there are areas in our state where a car is a necessity. Is it fair to deny a person the ability to rent a car because they do not have a credit card? I certainly do not think so. As it stands now, they can be denied rental privileges. HB 5752 would give Connecticut residents greater access to renting cars.

Representative Guerrera, Senator Maynard and members of the Transportation Committee, thank you allowing me to testify in support of HB 5752, a bill intended to help Connecticut consumers.